

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Garlepp Edwin on 3/22/10.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 23-34 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3,5,7-9,12,15-22,35 and 36 are allowed. The withdrawn claims 6,10,11,13 and 14 it depends on the allowed and generic claim 1. Therefore, claims 1-3,5-22 and 35-36 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record either taken singularly or in combination fails to disclose the invention as claimed. In particular, reference to Abell's 113, Laveran' 172 and Voss's 366 are the closest prior art but fail to disclose that the top surface of the lower tank is highest at an intermediate portion and is so shaped as to lower gradually from the highest portion toward the front and rear side surfaces, the highest portion of the top surface is positioned between a front heat exchange tube row and a rear heat exchange tube row of the heat exchanger core; a front and rear grooves formed between lateral adjacent pairs of heat exchange tubes, in combination with other limitation in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tho v. Duong whose telephone number is 571-272-4793. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tyler J. Cheryl can be reached on 571-272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tho v Duong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3744